



Community Waterway Adoptions

Telling the story of Waterway Community Adoptions

Group Name:

Newark Emmaus Trust

Newark Emmaus Trust is an independent, Registered Charity, established in 1993 to accommodate and support local homeless and vulnerable young people in the Newark area.



Where is your adoption?

Newark Emmaus Trust, as part of its support and activities and in association with the Canal & River Trust, has adopted a section of the River Trent that runs from Mill Bridge down to the main town bridge in Newark.

Why did your group adopt?

By volunteering to adopt a section of the River Trent, Newark Emmaus Trust were able to provide an additional set of life skills to their residence while contributing and demonstrating to the local community a commitment by young people towards providing a clean and tidy riverside environment, and at the same time raise awareness of the trust to the local people.

Biggest achievement to date?

One activity being performed by this volunteer group is to weed and clear a raised flower bed on their adopted river bank and plant new flowers to attract wild life. In recognition of this achievement the Canal & River Trust will erect a plaque for visitors and river users to see that the work done on the flower bed has been performed by the members of Newark Emmaus Trust, who maintain the up-keep of that section of the river bank.

What are your plans for the future with your adoption?

Looking after a section of river bank has been part of teaching the young people practical social skills, giving them a sense of self-worth, preparing them for work, whilst learning about wildlife and the environment through positive experiences in the community. Not only does the volunteering help the Canal & River Trust by us adopting and managing a section of river side but it is an excellent opportunity for our young people to have positive experiences volunteering within the community, and being part of this partnership work.

John Hudson, Deputy Manager

Along with painting gates and bollards along the towpath members of Newark Emmaus Trust are keen to cut back trees, clear weeds and overgrowth and keep the river bank clean and tidy for the benefit of the visiting public and demonstrate that the young people of Newark are happy to contribute and put something back into the community.

How long has the adoption been going?

Newark Emmaus Trust adopted their section of the River Trent in August 2015 and has worked in conjunction with the Canal & River Trust through Scott Miller, the area volunteer leader for the CRT, who works closely with volunteer groups. So far twelve members of Newark Emmaus Trust, with ages ranging from sixteen to twenty one, have been involved in activities along the river bank, and their achievements have given them a sense of pride and responsibility to their commitment.

Would you recommend it to a group thinking about adopting?

Working in close association with volunteers and adoption groups both Scott Miller, volunteer leader and Wayne Ball, volunteer development coordinator for the Canal & River Trust, appreciate the work done by volunteers and are delighted to see Newark Emmaus Trust as part of the CRT adoption scheme.

Web links:

www.newarkemmaustrust.org.uk

